

Not a Bit Too Early To Begin Making Preparations For Your Exhibits For The County Fair. Let's All Help

INVADING ARMY CALLED BACK TO STEM GERMAN AVALANCHE

Men Who Dashed Into Germany Further East to Regain Lost Province of Alsace, Are Hurried Into Meuse Valley to Save Paris From Siege Like That of 1870

REPUBLIC'S NOW FATE HANGS IN THE BALANCE

Battle Now on in Mountains Will Tell Future for France, Says Official Statement—"Hard Necessity" Forces New Strategy

Paris, Aug. 26. (1:10 a. m.)—The war office has issued the following official announcement: "The commander-in-chief, requiring all available forces on the Meuse, has ordered the progressive abandonment of occupied territory. Muelhausen has again been evacuated."

"The new battle is in progress between Maubeuge, (in the department of Nord) and Donon, (in Central Vosges). On it hangs the fate of France. Operations in take away troops upon which might depend victory. It is necessary that they all withdraw from Alsace temporarily to assure its final deliverance. It is a matter of hard necessity."

"In Lorraine the two armies have begun a combined attack one starting from Grand Couronne De Nancy and the other from south of Luneville. The engagement which began yesterday (Monday) continues at the time of writing. The sound of cannonading is not heard at Nancy as it was yesterday."

African Troops Valorous. "The fifteenth corps which suffered heavily in the last fight had the gaps in its ranks filled and formed part of one of the two armies. They made a brilliant counter attack in the valley of Vezouze. The attitude of the troops was splendid, effacing all memories of their conduct August 20."

"Notwithstanding the fatigue of the three days' battle and the losses they have undergone, the morale of the troops is excellent and they are anxious to resume the fighting. The outstanding incident Sunday was the fight between Algerian and Senegalese riflemen and the Prussian guards. Our African soldiers hurled themselves with unbridled fury on this solid body."

This above trite announcement from the French war office carries with it proof of a complete reversal of strategy on the part of the French. Instead of invad-

ing Germany as they started out to do, the republic's forces have decided to hurry back in order to head off the impending avalanche of Germans, who appear to be pushing steadily forward their campaign through Belgium toward Paris.

Started Into Alsace.

At the opening of the war the French probably felt that their capital was secure in the protection of a part of the French army the English expeditionaries, and the fighting Belgians. So the greater part of the French forces under General Joffre, the commander-in-chief, sallied forth to take back Alsace and Lorraine, the two border provinces that the conquering Germans took from France in 1870. Germany, too, seemed to have centered her military hopes on one point—and that was Paris. So the French in Alsace met but a small part of the kaiser's men, and took Muelhausen and the passes in the Vosges mountains, which the French held in 1871 long after all the rest of France was subdued.

On Defensive Now.

So it appears that both primary campaigns—that of the Germans and that of the French—succeeded in a measure. But with the winning Alsace dwindles in French minds, and all the energy of France now is to be put forth to keep the hated Prussians from repeating their conquering march of 1870.

The French, who started out on the offensive, are now on the defensive.

The two invading armies passed each other on the way—the Germans rushing across Belgium directly toward Paris, and the French crossing the German border more than one hundred miles to the southeast.

The Germans can't cross the Franco-German border—military men agree here—because of the

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ELLINWOOD BOYS INJURED

Were Riding Motorcycle and Ran Into Automobile.

Otto Mellies, the 20 year old son of Herman Mellies and Milton, the 15 year old son of Will Panning, both of Ellinwood, were quite seriously injured near that city Sunday evening when the motorcycle they were riding collided with an automobile at the Hirsch corner just northeast of that city.

Rip Vossen was driving the automobile and was coming from the north and had slowed down to make the turn at the Hirsch corner. The boys, riding young Mellies' motorcycle, were right behind the auto, and when Vossen slowed down they were unable to stop or turn out in time and crashed into his machine. Young Panning was thrown to one side and struck on his head in the road, being knocked unconscious and remained so until the next day. Mellies was thrown from his machine, struck the fender of the car and received a number of severe cuts and bruises. Both boys were in pretty bad shape for a couple of days but reports from them now are to the effect that both are getting along nicely and will be able to be around again in a short time. It is extremely fortunate that neither were not more seriously injured.

MRS. O. V. DODGE.

Mrs. Ora V. Dodge, one of the early day residents of this city, died at the family home in Kansas City early Monday morning, death being due to cancer of the brain. Her son, O. V. Dodge, Jr., and aunt, Mrs. L. E. Seeber, both of this city, left immediately for Kansas City on receipt of the news of her death to attend the funeral. Mr. and Mrs. Dodge were among the well known and popular residents of this city for many years, the family moving to Kansas City several years ago where Mr. Dodge engaged in business. She was a most estimable woman who was very highly regarded by all her acquaintances, and the many old friends will join the sorrowing relatives in sincere grief over her death.

Ed G. McNown left Tuesday morning for a vacation trip of several weeks which he will spend in different points in Colorado.

Adolph Thuro and Gus Mellies were up from north of Ellinwood Tuesday on a business trip and for a visit with their many friends.

Joe Liebl and John Peckerill were over from Claflin Tuesday on a business trip and for a visit with friends. Joe is figuring on the purchase of a new auto and was trying out a big Studebaker Six.

ARM TORN OFF.

Thresher Hand Near Ellinwood Suffers Terrible Injury.

Arthur Huntley, who had been employed by Louis Sessler with his threshing machine, south of Ellinwood, was terribly injured on Tuesday morning of this week, when, while working about the separator, his left arm was caught in one of the belts and twisted entirely off close to the body. He was immediately brought to this city and given attention and is now in the hospital here and seems to be getting along all right in spite of his terrible accident, and unless infection sets in will probably recover.

BITTEN BY RATTLESNAKE.

Mrs. Will F. Gagelman, of west of town, suffered a bite from a rattlesnake Monday evening while hunting for eggs in the barn at their home, and for a time was regarded as in a very serious condition, although immediately after being bitten she was given emergency treatment and was then brought to town for medical attention, but she is now getting along in fine shape and it is thought that no serious effects will follow.

While gathering the eggs in the evening she thrust her hand into a nest under one of the mangers in the barn and felt a sharp sting as though she had run a thistle of some kind into her thumb. She thought nothing of the occurrence thinking there was probably some stickers in the hay and again put her hand into the nest and received a second sting. Investigation showed the marks to have been made by the fangs of a snake and she was then given treatment at once and brought to town. The snake was dug out from beneath the manger and killed and was brought to town and is said to have been a young rattlesnake. It is extremely fortunate that the wound was attended to immediately for if it had not been it is probable that fatal results would have followed.

MRS. GEORGE BOSHILL.

After an illness of many months during the most of which time she suffered untold agonies, Mrs. George Boshill, one of the well known residents of this city, passed away at the family home Monday night, death being due to cancer. Mrs. Boshill had been a sufferer from this dread disease for a long time and some months ago she underwent an operation in the hopes that it would save or at least prolong her life. Following this she enjoyed better health for a time but again was taken worse and her condition for several weeks had been most critical and death was not unexpected. She leaves to mourn her death her husband, and one son and one daughter, Will Boshill and Mrs. Irene Donovan, both of this city; one sister, Mrs. Ed Sterling, who lives at Heizer, and two brothers and one sister in California. She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Weimert, early day settlers of the Heizer community, where she grew to womanhood and where she was united in marriage. The family lived on a farm in Buffalo township for a number of years, but several years ago moved to this city.

She was a woman who lived an exemplary Christian life; a faithful and loving wife and mother, and a woman who enjoyed the love and esteem of all who knew her, and the many friends will join with the family in grief over her death.

Funeral services were held at the home Wednesday afternoon at 1 o'clock and burial made in the Dunkard cemetery near Heizer, beside the graves of her parents who have gone before.

Rev. Duckwitz was down from Albert Tuesday on a little visit with his many friends and to look after business matters here.

Taylor C. Robertson, editor of the Ness County Echo, was in the city Tuesday of this week on his way home to Ness City after a business trip to Topeka, and made a pleasant call at the Democrat office. Mr. Robertson is figuring on installing a linotype in his office and he wanted to see how the No. 8 was filling the bill in the Democrat shop.

FRENCH IN OFFICIAL STATEMENT ADMIT THE REVERSE IS SERIOUS

Allied Armies Are Driven Back to Their Second Defensive Positions by Resistless German Forces

STRIKE SUDDENLY ALL ALONG 300 MILE LINE

Kaiser's Troops Have Successes in Alsace and Lorraine as Well as in the Advance From Belgium—Fall of Namur Leaves Road Clear for the Advancing Legions of Germany

Antwerp, Aug. 24.—In a terrific battle waged in and about Charleroi today the fighting became so ferocious that the German attackers and the French defenders clashed in the streets.

While the shells from the besieging batteries were falling into the city on all sides, the Germans forced their way into the town from the Montigny side, crossed the bridge in front of the railway station and immediately came into contact with the French troops, who drove them back with serious losses.

The bombardment of the city continued. To the left of the hotel De L'Europe several houses were struck and seriously damaged.

After the German repulse, the mass of French artillery and the long lines of troops emerged from the city in the direction of Catlet.

Paris, Aug. 24.—The war office issued late tonight a statement summing up the reverse of the allied armies in the following language:

"The French and English plan of attack having failed owing to the unforeseen difficulties, have retired on the covering positions."

"West of the Meuse, the English army on our left was attacked by the Germans but behaved admirably, holding its ground with traditional steadiness."

"The French assumed the offensive with its army corps. An African brigade in the front line, carried away by their eagerness, were received by a murderous fire."

"They did not give an inch but,

counter-attacked by the Prussian guard, they were obliged to retire, only, however, after inflicting enormous losses. The Prussian guard especially suffered heavily."

"East of the Meuse our troops advanced across an extremely difficult country and made a vigorous attack when they emerged from the woods, but were obliged to fall back after a stiff fight south of the river Semois."

Withdraw to Covering Positions. "On order of General Joffre our troops and the British troops withdrew to the covering positions."

"Our troops are intact; our cavalry has in no way suffered and our artillery has affirmed its superiority. Our officers and soldiers are in the best of condition, morally and physically."

"As a result of the orders which have been issued the aspect of the struggle will change for a few days."

"The French army will remain time on the defensive, but at the right moment, to be decided upon by the commander in chief, it will resume a vigorous offensive."

Losses on Both Sides Heavy

"Our losses are heavy. It would be premature to enumerate them. It would be equally so to enumerate those of the Germans, who suffered so heavily that they were obliged to abandon their counter attacks and establish themselves in fresh positions in Lorraine."

"We delivered four attacks yes-

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